

IN THE CLAIMS

5 1. An electrical power distribution plugstrip,
comprising:

 a strip enclosure for mounting vertically within an
equipment rack cabinet and for providing electrical power
distribution to a number of electrical loads mounted within
10 such cabinet;

 a plurality of power outlet sockets disposed along
one longitudinal face of the strip enclosure and each providing
for independent supply of operating power to corresponding ones
of said electrical loads;

15 a power input cord for receiving all electrical
operating power to be ultimately supplied to every one of said
number of electrical loads;

 a plurality of power control relays each connected to
independently switch electrical current from the power input
20 cord to corresponding ones of the plurality of power outlet
sockets; and

 a user display disposed on said longitudinal face of
the strip enclosure and for providing a digital readout of a
total current passing in from the power input cord.

25 2. The plugstrip of claim 1, further comprising:

 an intelligent power module (IPM) in which is
disposed at least one of the plurality of power control relays
and a corresponding power outlet socket.

30 3. The plugstrip of claim 2, further comprising:

 a power manager connected to the IPM and providing
for user control of operating power to selectable ones of said
electrical loads.

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4. The plugstrip of claim 3, further comprising:

5 a network interface controller (NIC) connected to the power manager and providing for remote user control of operating power to selectable ones of said electrical loads over a TCP/IP network.

5. The plugstrip of claim 3, further comprising:

10 a network interface controller (NIC) connected to the power manager and providing for a TCP/IP network report of said total current passing in from the power input cord to a remote user.

6. The plugstrip of claim 1, further comprising:

15 a plurality of intelligent power modules (IPM's) in which each hosts at least one of the plurality of power control relays and a corresponding power outlet socket.

7. The plugstrip of claim 2, further comprising:

20 a power manager connected in parallel to the plurality of IPM's and providing for user control of operating power to selectable ones of said electrical loads.

8. The plugstrip of claim 2, further comprising:

25 a power manager connected in serial to the plurality of IPM's and providing for user control of operating power to selectable ones of said electrical loads by a serial communication channel.

9. The plugstrip of claim 1, further comprising:

30 a plurality of intelligent power modules (IPM's) in which each hosts at least one of the plurality of power control relays and a corresponding power outlet socket;

wherein each IPM is identical in its hardware and software implementation to each other one.

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